

REMARKS

Claims 4-6, 8-16 and 18-25 were pending in the Application. Applicants cancelled claims 4-6, 11, 13-16, 21 and 23-25 without prejudice or disclaimer. Hence, claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22 are pending in the Application. Applicants cancelled claims 4-6, 11, 13-16, 21 and 23-25 only to expedite the issuance of claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22 and not in response to the Examiner's cited art. Applicants are not conceding in this application that cancelled claims 4-6, 11, 13-16, 21 and 23-25 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the subject matter (claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22) indicated by the Examiner as being allowable. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuation patent applications.

The Examiner indicated that claims 8-10 and 18-20 are allowed. The Examiner further indicated that claims 12 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants amended claims 12 and 22 to be rewritten in independent form. Hence, claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22 are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to issue a notice of allowance allowing claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22.

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that claims 8-10, 12, 18-20 and 22 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request an allowance of such claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

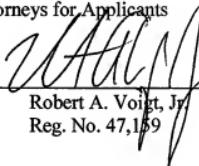
Respectfully submitted,

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